

May 20, 2014

Dear Members of the MI House Health Policy Committee,

I was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana. At the age of 2, my parents and sibling moved to Michigan to pursue education and work. I completed my bachelor's degree at the Michigan State University and pursued my Doctorate of Physical Therapy degree at Oakland University in Rochester, MI.

I chose to attend Oakland University (OU) PT program because it was an excellent public university with an exemplary physical therapy program. However, now that I have graduated (in December 2013), I am choosing to move to Indiana so I may practice physical therapy in the way that my OU PT program (and all Michigan programs) prepare their students to practice. That is, with the ability to see a patient directly, without the delay and expense that is incurred when a customer must first see a physician - so the physician can then refer the patient to a physical therapist.

Only Michigan and Oklahoma do not allow citizens to choose to see a physical therapist directly. Michigan citizens deserve the right to this choice as those citizens in the other 48 states, U.S Military, and Washington D.C. already have.

I sincerely hope to see Direct Consumer Access to Physical Therapy Services in Michigan in the near future. I plan to return after that occurs to serve the citizens of Michigan and eventually, pursue teaching at the pronounced Oakland University Physical Therapy program.

Please support Direct Consumer Access to Physical Therapy Services in Michigan.  
Please VOTE YES on SB 690.

Thank you for your time,

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